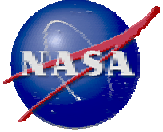




Guiding Principles for ISS Utilization

For the purposes of this discussion, “utilization” refers to the scientific, technological and/or commercial use of the ISS for the purposes of basic or applied research and/or research of commercial significance.

- As a world-class orbiting international laboratory, the ISS will support a balanced and diverse mix of advanced scientific and technological research, all of which require the unique environment of space. We can expect research aboard the ISS to address many spheres of endeavor, including, but not necessarily limited to the support of basic and applied research in the biological and physical sciences, research to support space exploration, commercial research, space science and Earth science research, research of significance to our international partners and to other government agencies, the development of new knowledge and technologies, and educational pursuits;



Guiding Principles

(continued)

- Recognizing that research is the main use of the ISS, and that safety is the highest priority at all times, the following principles should guide the character and operation of any organization charged with facilitating utilization of the ISS:
 - The user community should have substantive and continuing involvement in all phases of planning, designing, implementing, conducting and evaluating utilization of the ISS;
 - In those cases where the organization has the responsibility for selecting research or technology, basic and applied research and technology must be selected on the basis of scientific and technical merit as determined by peer review. The selection processes for commercial research need not be the same as those for scientific and engineering research, but these endeavors must meet similar standards of quality;
 - High quality basic and applied research should be paramount;



Guiding Principles

(continued)

- In those cases where the organization has the responsibility for selecting research, the quality and integrity of the organizations selection processes shall be overseen by a group that represents a broad section of the science and technology user community, and is as conflict-free as possible. This same group may also be used to evaluate the productivity and performance of the selected research and technology efforts;
- The organization should match NASA's priorities as expressed in Agency and Enterprise strategic plans;
- Responsibility for managing ISS utilization does not require that the organization manage other ISS activities;
- The organization should strive to simplify and streamline the processes associated with the ISS utilization;
- The organization must be flexible and capable of adapting over time in response to changing research needs and to lessons learned;
- The organization should advocate the use of the ISS, as well as support NASA's education and outreach goals as they pertain to the research conducted on the ISS.